Annual Report

of the

Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations

for the year ending March 31, 1982

For further information, contact:

Ontario Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations
Communications Services Branch
555 Yonge Street
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 2H6

The Honourable John Black Aird, O.C., Q.C., B.A., L.L.D., Lieutenant Governor of Ontario

The Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations is pleased to submit its annual report of operations for 1981-82.

Robert Elgie, M.D.
Minister

March, 1982

Contents

Table of Contents

Organization Chart of Ministry 3
Message from the Minister 4
Message from the Deputy Minister 6
Legislation Administered by the Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations 7
Financial Statement (Revenues) 8
Financial Statement (Expenditures) 9

1 Commercial Standards Program
Business Practices Division 10
Travel Industry Compensation Fund Board of Trustees 11
Commercial Registration Appeal Tribunal 11
Companies Division 12
Financial Institutions Division 13
Ontario Share and Deposit Insurance Corporation 14
Ontario Securities Commission 14
Commodity Futures Advisory Board 15
Financial Disclosure Advisory Board 15
Toronto Stock Exchange Board of Directors 15
Pension Commission of Ontario 16

2 Liquor Licence Program
Liquor Control Board of Ontario 17
Liquor Licence Board of Ontario 17
Liquor Licence Appeal Tribunal 18

3 Property Rights Program
Property Rights Division 19
Real Property Registration 19
Personal Property Security Registration 19
Legal and Survey Standards 19
Land Registration Improvement Project 20

4 Public Entertainment Standards Program
Lotteries Branch 21
Theatres Branch 21
Ontario Racing Commission 22
Province of Ontario Horse Racing and Breeding Advisory Board 22
Office of the Athletics Commissioner 23

5 Registrar General Program
(Office of the) Registrar General 24

6 Rent Review Program
Residential Tenancy Commission 25

7 Technical Standards Program
Technical Standards Division 26
Building Code Branch 26
Building Code Commission 26
Building Materials Evaluation Commission 26
Elevating Devices Branch 26
Fuels Safety Branch 26
Pressure Vessels Safety Branch (Operating Engineers Section) 27
Operating Engineers Board of Examiner 27
Operating Engineers Board of Review 27
Pressure Vessels Safety Branch 27
Upholstered and Stuffed Articles Branch 28

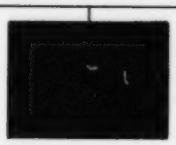
Organizational Chart of Ministry

March, 1982

Hon. Robert Elgie, M.D.
Donald Crosbie

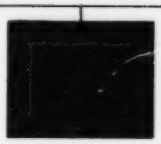
Director: B. Alldrick (acting)
Director: E. Ciemiega
Director: J. Hay

Executive Director
M. Thompson
- Motor Vehicle Accident Claims
- Insurance
- Loan/Trust
- Cemeteries
- Credit Unions and Cooperatives Services



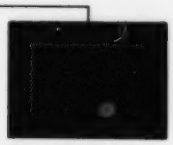
Chairman
H.F. Knowles
Director
C. Salter
- Filings
- Registrations
- Investigations

Executive Director
R. Simpson
- Consumer Advisory Services
- Lotteries
- Investigation and Enforcement
- Central Registration
- Athletics Commissioner

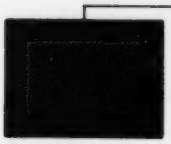


Provincial Property Registrar
D. Pesnock
- Real Property Registration
- Title and Survey Examination
- Personal Property Registration

Executive Director
H. Yoneyama
- Elevating Devices
- Fuels Safety
- Building Code
- Upholstered and Stuffed Articles
- Pressure Vessels Safety



Deputy Registrar
E.W. Pike
- Registrations
- Issuance of Certificates



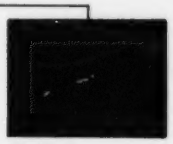
Executive Director
B. Howard
- Incorporations
- Registration (partnerships/sole proprietorships)
- Business Names

Director
D.H. Rivet *(acting)*
- Finance
- Systems
- Administrative Services

Director
J.E. Service

Director
J. Macpherson

Chairman
D. Haley
Superintendent
J.W. Bentley



Chairman
N. Hardy
Director
W. McDonnell
- Standardbred
- Thoroughbred

Chairman
W. Blair

Chairman
W. Bosworth
General Manager
F.A. MacInnis

Chairman
J. Yaremko

Chairman
J. Yaremko

Chief Tenancy Commissioner
P.C. Williams

Director
M. Brown
- Board of Censors
- Theatres Safety

Message from the Minister

I see the challenge that faces this ministry as one of maintaining the critical balance between the interests of consumers and business in an increasingly complex marketplace.

Over the last year, our efforts to maintain this balance have involved a tighter and more efficient focus of our consumer advocacy on areas where the need was the greatest. This focussing of effort during a period of financial constraint will become even more important in the coming year.

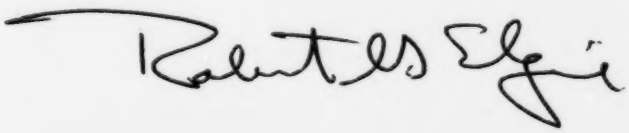
A major theme has become the faster and more streamlined delivery of customer service. For example, our Companies Division has instituted over-the-counter incorporation procedures, an important change for people trying to start a new business.

Our moves toward self-regulation in some areas of industry and finance will continue, placing more reliance on business to govern itself in ways beneficial to Ontario consumers.

We will also monitor developments in the field of micro-electronics and their impact on the consumer, particularly in the area of electronic funds transfer.

These are but a few of the initiatives planned for the 1982-83 year, all of which will be carried out with a sharp eye to minimizing cost and maximizing effectiveness.

As you read this annual report it will become obvious that this ministry has a difficult and diverse mandate. I look forward to fulfilling this challenge, seeking balance and fairness in the marketplace while reducing needless government intervention.



Robert Elgie, M.D.
Minister of Consumer and Commercial Relations

Message from the Deputy Minister

To the Honourable Dr. Robert Elgie,
Minister of Consumer and Commercial Relations

In an annual report message, many of us like to look back at the year behind us.

This year is particularly significant. It marks the end of the first decade of the Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations, ten years of growth and changes.

I am therefore very pleased to submit to you the annual report on the state of the ministry, which reflects this decade of development.

D.A. Crosbie
Deputy Minister

Legislation Administered by the Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations

Apportionment Act
Athletics Control Act

Bailiffs Act
Bills of Sale Act
Boilers and Pressure Vessels Act
Boundaries Act, 1980
Bread Sales Act
Building Code Act, 1974
Business Corporations Act
Business Practices Act, 1974

Cemeteries Act
Certification of Titles Act, 1979
Collection Agencies Act
Commodity Futures Act, 1978
Compulsory Automobile Insurance Act, 1979
Condominium Act, 1978
Consumer Protection Act
Consumer Protection Bureau Act
Consumer Reporting Act, 1973
Co-operative Corporations Act, 1973
Corporation Securities Registration Act
Corporations Act
Corporations Information Act, 1976
Credit Unions and Caisses Populaires Act, 1976

Debt Collectors Act
Deposits Regulation Act
Discriminatory Business Practices Act, 1978

Egress from Public Buildings Act
Elevating Devices Act
Energy Act, 1971

Gasoline Handling Act
Guarantee Companies Securities Act

Insurance Act
Investment Contracts Act

Land Titles Act
Limited Partnerships Act, 1980
Liquor Control Act, 1975
Liquor Licence Act, 1975
Loan and Trust Corporations Act

Marine Insurance Act
Marriage Act, 1977
Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations Act
Mortgage Brokers Act
Mortmain and Charitable Uses Act
Motor Vehicle Accident Claims Act
Motor Vehicle Dealers Act

Ontario Credit Union League Limited Act, 1972
Ontario Deposit Insurance Corporation Act
Ontario New Home Warranties Plan Act, 1976
Ontario Water Resources Act (Part)
Operating Engineers Act

Paperback and Periodical Distributors Act, 1971
Partnerships Act
Partnerships Registration Act
Pension Benefits Act
Personal Property Security Act
Petroleum Products Price Freeze Act, 1975
Prearranged Funeral Services Act
Prepaid Hospital and Medical Services Act

Racing Commission Act
Real Estate and Business Brokers Act
Registered Insurance Brokers Act, 1980
Registry Act
Residential Tenancies Act, 1979

Securities Act, 1978

Theatres Act
Toronto Stock Exchange Act
Travel Industry Act, 1974

Unclaimed Articles Act
Upholstered and Stuffed Articles Act

Vital Statistics Act

Wine Content Act, 1976

Statement of Revenues For Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations

For the year ended March 31, 1982 (with comparative figures for 1981)

	1981-82 $	%	1980-81 $	%
Ministry Administration Program	23,998	0.01	24,697	0.01
Commercial Standards Program				
Securities Commission	1,317,859	0.6	1,372,326	0.7
Pension Plans	634,618	0.3	679,461	0.4
Financial Institutions	1,625,975	0.7	1,846,111	1.0
Companies	8,258,150	3.6	8,127,154	4.4
Business Practices	2,672,084	1.1	2,613,325	1.4
Sub-Total	14,508,686	6.3	14,638,377	7.9
Motor Vehicles Accident Claims	11,059,175	4.8	10,972,649	5.9
Security Bond	567,455	0.2	440,601	0.2
Total	26,135,314	11.3	26,051,627	14.0
Technical Standards Program				
Operating Engineers	270,423	0.1	279,321	0.1
Pressure Vessels	1,491,330	0.6	1,410,306	0.8
Elevating Devices	1,848,665	0.8	1,699,279	0.9
Fuels Safety	878,301	0.4	824,252	0.4
Building Code	1,600	0.0	1,602	0.0
Upholstered & Stuffed Articles	193,974	0.1	172,008	0.1
Total	4,686,293	2.0	4,386,768	2.3
Public Entertainment Standards Program				
Regulation of Horse Racing	1,336,185	0.6	1,185,559	0.6
Theatres, Lotteries & Athletics Commissioner	1,181,130	0.5	740,720	0.5
Sub-Total	2,517,315	1.1	1,926,279	1.1
Security Deposit-Athletics Commissioner	500	0.0	21,200	0.01
Total	2,517,815	1.1	1,947,479	1.1
Property Rights Program				
Real Property Registration	19,801,589	8.5	19,120,001	10.3
Personal Property Registration	5,318,932	2.3	5,415,337	2.9
Sub-Total	25,120,531	1018	24,535,338	13.2
P.P.S.R. Assurance Fund	660,792	0.3	487,865	0.2
Total	25,781,323	11.1	25,023,203	1.7
Registrar General				
Registrar General	3,143,747	1.3	3,140,497	1.7
Total	3,143,747	1.3	3,140,497	1.7
Liquor Licence Program				
Liquor Licence Board	169,868,880	73.2	125,623,243	67.5
Total	169,868,880	73.2	125,623,243	67.5
Ministry Total Revenues	232,153,368	100.0%	186,197,514	100.0%

Statement of Expenditures For Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations

For the year ended March 31, 1982 (with comparative figures for 1981)

	1981-82 $	%	1980-81 $	%
Ministry Administration Program	**6,408,909**	6.3	5,973,335	6.4
Commercial Standards Program				
Securities Commission	**3,395,460**	3.3	3,000,858	3.2
Pension Plans	**802,774**	0.8	651,667	0.7
Financial Institutions	**2,511,004**	3.5	3,272,489	3.5
Motor Vehicles Accident Claims	**3,617,563**	3.6	3,532,797	3.8
Companies	**2,110,341**	2.1	1,997,444	2.1
Business Practices	**4,642,365**	4.6	4,326,077	4.6
Commercial Registration Appeal Tribunal and Liquor Licence Appeal Tribunal	**252,836**	0.2	242,518	0.2
Sub-Total	**18,332,343**	18.1	17,023,850	18.1
Payments from Motor Vehicle Accident Claims Fund	**11,830,222**	11.6	14,469,475	15.4
Security Bond Forfeiture	**187,907**	0.2	288,836	0.3
Total	**30,350,472**	29.9	**31,782,161**	33.8
Technical Standards Program				
Program Administration	**568,951**	0.6	379,585	0.4
Operating Engineers	**358,591**	0.4	317,918	0.4
Pressure Engineers	**2,018,109**	2.0	1,929,015	2.1
Elevating Devices	**1,924,642**	.9	1,848,153	2.0
Fuels Safety	**2,264,429**	2.2	2,090,923	2.2
Building Code	**620,262**	0.6	566,430	0.6
Upholstered & Stuffed Articles	**251,655**	0.2	222,023	0.2
Total	**8,004,699**	7.9	**7,354,047**	7.9
Public Entertainment Standards Program				
Regulation of Horse Racing	**14,265,249**	14.1	9,144,777	9.7
Theatres, Lotteries & Athletics Commissioner	**804,890**	0.8	729,383	0.8
Sub-Total	**15,070,139**	14.9	9,874,160	10.5
The Financial Administration Act	**10,100**	0.01	10,000	0.01
Total	**15,080,139**	14.9	**9,884,160**	10.5
Property Rights				
Program Administration	1,445,867	1.4	826,428	0.9
Real Property Registration	17,294,281	17.0	16,281,433	17.3
Legal and Survey Standards	1,888,965	1.9	1,804,626	1.9
Personal Property Registration	4,677,593	4.6	4,221,813	4.5
Crown Contributions re Judges' Plans	—	—	5,854	0.01
Total	25,306,706	24.9	23,140,154	24.6
Registrar General				
Registrar General	**4,271,669**	4.2	3,689,834	3.9
Vital Statistics Act	**381**	0.0	345	0.0
Total	**4,272,050**	4.2	3,690,179	3.9
Liquor Licence Program				
Liquor Licence Board	**7,068,185**	7.0	7,379,318	7.9
Total	**7,068,185**	7.0	**7,379,318**	7.9
Residential Tenancy Program				
Residential Tenancy Commission	**4,974,789**	4.9	4,726,785	5.0
Total	**4,974,789**	4.9	**4,726,785**	5.0
Ministry Total Expenditures	**101,485,949**	100.0%	**93,930,1349**	100.0%

1 Commercial Standards Program

Business Practices Division

During 1981-82, $2.3 million were returned to consumers as a result of complaints to Business Practices Division.

In addition, division staff investigated automobile odometer rollbacks, unnecessary car repairs and complaints on a number of subjects, ranging from furniture purchases to real estate sales.

The cornerstone legislation of the division is the Business Practices Act which contains a list of unconscionable practices and false, misleading or deceptive representations that are prohibited. It provides remedies to the consumer as well as presenting a range of options to the division's director should an unethical practice be discovered. These options include prosecution, issue of a proposal for a cease-and-desist order that is effective immediately and acceptance of an assurance of voluntary compliance. Investigative powers and penalties are also contained in the Act.

The division, which has 121 employees working out of seven regional offices and the head office in Toronto, is divided into three branches: Consumer Advisory Services; Commercial Registration; and Investigation and Enforcement. The Consumer Advisory Services Branch processes consumer complaints under all Acts administered by the Division, is responsible for commercial liaison with non-regulated industries and trade groups, meets with consumer associations and community groups and is responsible for compiling and analysing complaint data.

The advisory branch processed 13,870 complaints this year and through mediation recovered $2,323,180 for consumers. Of those complaints which fell under ministry jurisdiction, the largest number was handled under the Business Practices Act. These 4,569 cases included false, misleading or deceptive business dealings.

Examples of successful mediation include cases where:

- a deposit of $1,200 was returned to a consumer when a car dealer was unable to deliver the car within the promised delivery period of three months
- $2,000 in repairs were carried out to a trailer that had been purchased by a consumer but not picked up and damaged in a freak hailstorm
- $426 were returned to a consumer who had become dissatisfied with an appliance store when they failed to deliver his freezer on the date promised
- a used car dealer agreed to take back a car and refund the purchase price of $2,200 when it was discovered that the car had safety related faults
- a house had siding replaced at a cost of $3,000 when the aluminum siding proved to be faulty

The individual registrars of the acts regulated by this division examine the registration applications of businesses and determine the terms and conditions under which a registrant may work. They can refuse to renew or register a company or an individual and recommend that the licence be revoked.

The inspection process permits the branch to examine and seize a registrant's books and records and to freeze bank accounts. This year, 4,102 inspections were carried out on registrants.

Investigation and Enforcement Branch investigates alleged infractions and enforces legislation administered by the Business Practices Division and the Criminal Code of Canada. This year, the branch, either alone or with other police forces, participated in 218 investigations resulting in 553 charges. Of these, 74 people and 14 companies were charged with odometer tampering following ministry investigations. Most of those charged with spinning back car mileage were charged under the Criminal Code of Canada. Other charges under the code included fraud involving liens and mechanical repairs.

The branch also laid 37 charges under the Business Practices Act, many against home renovators, private schools, furniture stores, and car repair facilities.

Other charges were laid under the Motor Vehicle Dealers Act (44 charges, mainly against unlicensed dealers or salespeople), and the Consumer Protection Act (7 charges against paving contractors and home renovators not registered with the ministry). In one case, a handyman in Thunder Bay was fined $4,000 — the highest fine ever levied under this Act.

Another statute administered by the division is the Discriminatory Business Practices Act which prohibits businesses from discriminating on the basis of race, creed, color, nationality, ancestry, place of origin, sex or geographical location.

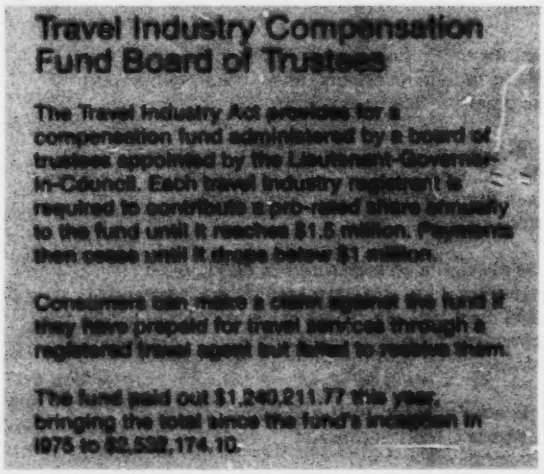
This Act provides for the issuance and enforcement of orders of compliance and assurances of voluntary compliance. The Act also allows those discriminated against to sue for punitive or exemplary damages. Those contravening the legislation may not supply goods or services to the government or its agencies for five years.

The disclosure provisions of the Act require that the names of all persons who entered into assurances of voluntary compliance or against whom orders have been issued, be reported to the public each year. The number of complaints, the resulting mediations or actions, and the number and nature of reports concerning these activities must also be disclosed. In addition, the names of all persons convicted, including the offence and penalty, must be disclosed annually.

In 1981-82 no complaints were received. No assurances of voluntary compliance or cease-and-desist orders were issued and no charges were laid.

The ministry received 9 reports of requests to bid on contracts containing clauses of a discriminatory nature. Of the 9 reports, eight were related to requests for negative statements of origin. The other two reports related to statements of restricted trade practices. In all situations, the reporting companies advised the ministry that they had responded either by deleting the clauses or refusing to submit a bid.

Among other accomplishments, the Business Practices Division is developing an on-line computer system which will include information on registrations, investigations, and complaints. This system will allow the division to check, track and record data, as well as providing a reciprocal information-sharing capability which may be used in co-operation with other regulatory divisions and agencies.



Acts administered by the division:
Athletics Control Act
Bailiffs Act
Business Practices Act
Collection Agencies Act
Condominium Act
Consumer Protection Act
Consumer Protection Bureau Act
Consumer Reporting Act
Discriminatory Business Practices Act
Mortgage Brokers Act
Motor Vehicle Dealers Act
Paperback and Periodical Distributors Act
Real Estate and Business Brokers Act
Travel Industry Act

The division also monitors the corporation designated to administer the Ontario New Home Warranties Plan Act.

Executive Director: R.A. Simpson

Commercial Registration Appeal Tribunal

The Commercial Registration Appeal Tribunal (CRAT) hears appeals of decisions made by ministry officials and other authorities responsible for licensing and registration.

The tribunal holds public hearings on request to consider administrative proposals to refuse to issue or renew, suspend or revoke the registration of would-be or now-licensed individuals and corporations. Its jurisdiction covers the areas of unfair business practices, real estate brokers and salesmen, mortgage brokers, automobile dealers and salesmen, collection agencies, travel agents and wholesalers, home builders, and cease-and-desist orders respecting all unfair business practices.

It also holds hearings under the Ontario New Home Warranties Plan Act to consider appeals from refusals of claims for damages, and under the Travel Industry Act to consider appeals of refusals for refunds of monies.

The tribunal is comprised of a full-time chairman, five per diem members, two of whom are designated vice-chairmen, and industry members appointed by Order in Council. Appeals are heard by a panel which includes the chairman (or vice-chairman in his place), one of the regular members and a member of the applicant's industry, if applicable. This representative is chosen on an as-available basis from a list of industry members.

In 1981-82, the tribunal dealt with 406 cases, up from 152 the year before. Of these 406 cases, written decisions were rendered in 145 cases, 139 were stayed, adjourned or settled without formal hearings and 122 were in process.

Summaries of CRAT decisions are published annually on a calendar basis. The 1981 summary lists the results of 78 decisions. Of these, one involved the Consumer Protection Act, 19 the Motor Vehicle Dealers Act, 3 the Mortgage Brokers Act, 18 the Ontario New Home Warranties Plan Act, 7 the Real Estate and Business Brokers Act, and 30 the Travel Industry Act.

Copies of the annual summaries of CRAT decisions are available from: Ontario Government Bookstore, 880 Bay St., Toronto, Ont. M7A 1N8.

Acts giving jurisiction to the tribunal:
Bailiffs Act
Business Practices Act
Collection Agencies Act
Consumer Protection Act
Consumer Reporting Act
Credit Unions and Caisses Populaires Act
Discriminatory Business Practices Act
Mortgage Brokers Act
Motor Vehicle Dealers Act
Ontario New Home Warranties Plan Act
Paperback and Periodical Distributors Act
Real Estate and Business Brokers Act
Travel Industry Act
Upholstered and Stuffed Articles Act

Chairman: J. Yaremko, Q.C.

Companies Division

Companies Division is responsible for the registration of sole proprietorships, partnerships, business or style names of corporations, incorporation of all Ontario corporations and licensing extra-provincial corporations to conduct business in Ontario. It also maintains information available to the public, such as the names and addresses of directors, officers and partners and type of business, on all of these.

During 1981-82, the division extended its "over-the-counter" incorporation service to land registry offices in London and Thunder Bay, in addition to its Toronto office.

The division also completed the privatization of the printing and distribution of forms under the Business Corporations Act. This has resulted in significant dollar savings in printing, postage and labour.

Despite an increase in workload, the division was able to reduce its staffing level while maintaining customer service levels.

The division incorporated 27,365 businesses in 1981-82, up from 27,099 the previous year. There are more than 300,000 active corporations in the province.

The division also registered 56,065 sole proprietorships and partnerships, an increase of 1,892 over 1980-81. There are approximately 303,000 active sole proprietorships and partnerships in the province.

Acts administered by the division:
Business Corporations Act
Corporations Act
Corporations Information Act
Corporation Securities Registration Act
Partnerships Registration Act
Limited Partnerships Act
Partnerships Act

Executive Director: B.C. Howard, Q.C.

Financial Institutions Division

One of the main functions of the division is to monitor the financial status and organizational structure of insurance companies, loan and trust companies and other financial institutions such as credit unions and co-operatives. It also oversees the Motor Vehicle Accident Claims Fund and, under the Cemeteries Act, performs yet another regulatory role.

The executive director of the division, in his capacity as Superintendent of Insurance, is responsible for the regulatory supervision of the insurance industry in the province. This includes the licensing of companies, agents and brokers, other than general insurance brokers licensed by the Registered Insurance Brokers of Ontario, provision of fair business practices guidelines where necessary, and the examination and monitoring of general insurance companies, life insurance companies, farmers mutuals, fraternal societies and mutual benefit societies. Associations providing prepaid hospital and medical services (including dental services) also come under this regulatory umbrella.

As part of the division's watchdog role, the Superintendent of Insurance handled 1,507 complaints against insurance companies, agents, and adjusters, a drop from 1,560 during the previous year. This drop is the fourth in consecutive years.

The superintendent also supervises 567 insurance companies, 19,950 insurance agents, and 1,110 insurance adjusters. The superintendent's efforts are directed at ensuring that all registered companies and individuals comply with applicable statutory requirements and that they are not engaging in unfair or deceptive practices as defined in the Insurance Act.

The Facility Association is a residual market insurance pool designed to ensure that insurance is available for those drivers experiencing difficulty obtaining insurance in the regular marketplace.

Automobile insurance rate adjustments were filed on five occasions by the Facility Association and approved, with modifications, by the Superintendent of Insurance under authority of the Compulsory Automobile Insurance Act 1979. The effective dates of the approved rate changes were July 1st, 1982 for private passenger risks and June 1st, 1981 and January 1st, 1982 for motorcycle and miscellaneous risks.

A procedure was developed for placing notice of Facility Association rate filings in the Ontario Gazette to permit interested parties to make submissions to the superintendent concerning proposed rate changes.

Studies connected with the proposed elimination of age, sex and marital status as automobile insurance rating factors continued during the year. A report received from the Insurance Bureau of Canada early in 1982 will form the basis for the development of a new statistical plan to deal with the problem of rating drivers under the age of 25.

Following the investigation of complaints from senior citizens about unfair rating practices for automobile insurance, a guideline was issued to the insurance industry prohibiting the practices of refusing to issue or renew policies solely due to a person's age, or requiring surcharges or medical examinations solely because of age. This guideline applies to all drivers over the age of 25.

The division also monitors the practices of the insurance industry in marketing, underwriting and claims, to identify problem areas where research is required.

As a result of these activities and in co-ordination with government/industry/consumer committees and counterparts in other jurisdictions, the superintendent develops programs to improve coverages, industry practices and insurance legislation.

It is apparent that compulsory automobile insurance is successful, as there were only 1,207 new claims made on the Motor Vehicle Accident Claims Fund in 1981-82. The majority of payments were for claims occurring before compulsory insurance and continue to reflect the current high rate of inflation as total payments only decreased from $14,470,000 to $11,830,000. Despite an increase in revenue from $10,973,000 to $11,059,000, the fund's cash reserves continued to decline from $16,697,000 to $12,309,000. Outstanding claims liabilities declined from $43,871,000 to $35,028,000.

The Credit Unions and Co-operatives Services Branch functions to ensure that these organizations are incorporated in accordance with the provisions of the legislation and that they operate in compliance with it.

Consolidation of credit unions during the year has resulted in a net reduction in charter numbers. At March 31, 1982, there were 989 credit unions with assets of $4.9 billion, servicing 1.8 million people.

Ontario residents are being served by 664 co-operatives, including those in the nursery school, farm supply, marketing, housing, consumer and other service fields.

Cemeteries Branch processed 1,516 returns outlining details of perpetual and pre-need funds this year. Under Regulation 90, the branch examined and approved 36 accounts as an alternative to formal passings of accounts before the court. Staff inspections and visits to, or concerning cemeteries during the same period increased by one-third to 1,482. In addition, the branch examined and approved the creation or expansion of 29 cemeteries and their facilities as well as alterations to the existing plans and related facilities of 853 cemeteries.

Ontario Share and Deposit Insurance Corporation

The role of this corporation, which operates under the Credit Unions and Caisses Populaires Act, is:

- to establish by way of a levy on each credit union a separate fund for each league and a further fund for all non-affiliated credit unions
- to accumulate, invest and manage the funds with each fund receiving the income from its investments and being charged with all direct charges and an appropriate portion of costs that relate to more than one fund
- to provide, at its discretion, financial assistance, having regard to the liabilities and assets of each fund, for the purpose of assisting any credit union in the appropriate category in its continued operation or in the orderly liquidation of its operations
- to provide, for the benefit of persons having shares or deposits with credit unions in Ontario, deposit insurance against loss of part or all of such shares or deposits, by making payments to such persons to the extent and in the manner authorized by the Act.

Acts administered by the division:
Cemeteries Act
Compulsory Automobile Insurance Act
Co-operative Corporations Act
Credit Unions and Caisses Populaires Act
Guarantee Companies Securities Act
Insurance Act
Investment Contracts Act
Loan and Trust Corporations Act
Marine Insurance Act
Motor Vehicle Accident Claims Act
Ontario Credit Union League Limited Act
Ontario Deposit Insurance Corporations Act
Prearranged Funeral Services Act
Prepaid Hospital and Medical Services Act
Registered Insurance Brokers Act

Executive Director: M. A. Thompson

Ontario Securities Commission

The Ontario Securities Commission (OSC) administers the Securities and Commodity Futures Acts. These acts provide information and protection to investors, as well as ensuring that the Canadian capital and commodity futures markets operate efficiently and with integrity.

To meet these objectives, the OSC assesses but cannot guarantee the honesty and reputation of those wishing to carry out business in these markets. Those registered must meet minimum standards of conduct. The OSC also insists on disclosure of risk to all classes of investors. These regulations, under the Securities Act, provide equality of access to timely disclosure of all material facts affecting investment decisions.

The ultimate objective is a market place as free as possible from dishonest activities. This contributes to investor confidence, increasing the ability of the investment community to provide the capital required by business ventures. To this end, the OSC has considerable powers of discretion, enabling it to act quickly and with flexibility in the face of urgent and specific problems.

In Ontario's securities and commodity futures fields, the vast majority of dealers are members of two principal self-regulatory organizations (SRO's) — the Toronto Stock Exchange (TSE) and the Ontario Chapter of the Investment Dealers Association of Canada (IDA). Already well known in the securities field, both were recognized under the Commodity Futures Act in 1981.

The OSC has oversight over the SRO's, and reviews and monitors their activities. In 1981, the industry practice of setting a fixed minimum commission structure for members came under review through a joint hearing held with administrators from other provinces having stock exchanges. The hearing, held in Toronto, attracted widespread attention with numerous briefs submitted and extensive oral testimony. Subsequently, the OSC directed the TSE to repeal its fixed commission by-law effective April 1, 1983. The decision has been appealed to the courts.

Any person who issues stocks in Ontario or is listed on the TSE becomes a reporting issuer obligated to meet the province's disclosure standards. There are over 2,000 reporting issuers currently qualified for public trading. They are required to make immediate public disclosure of facts that might materially affect the public market price of their shares, together with a regular disclosure of audited and unaudited financial information and annual reports.

During 1981-82, 7,070 financial statements were filed with the OSC, an increase from 6,543 the previous year.

It is an offense to pass on or use inside information before it has been disclosed, and certain classes of persons are designated as insiders and required to report their trading promptly. In 1981-82, the number of insider reports submitted declined to 21,968 from 22,338 the previous year.

Takeover bids occupied much of the OSC's attention last year. Of the 114 takeover bids filed, several led to a series of hearings. The OSC is given the power to insist on the equal treatment of minority shareholders through administrative proceedings. Appeals have been made but, to date, the courts have upheld the commission's power to deal with these problems.

The volume and value of last year's public and private financing was higher than the previous year's, with $3,504 million raised through the sale of equity securities and $1,029 million through debt securities, increases of 10.1 and 13.3 per cent respectively. The success of the relatively new (1979) provisions of the Securities Act, designed to make private financing easier, is indicated by the value of equity financing at $5,041 million, an increase over the previous year of 265.6 per cent. Debt financing by private placement increased by only 11.8 per cent to $1,643 million.

The Enforcement Branch continued its surveillance and enforcement program in 1981-82, both alone, and in conjunction with other divisions within the ministry, enforcement agencies within and outside of Ontario and the SRO's. Action is taken by the branch through administrative proceedings before the OSC, and actions in both civil and criminal courts. The number of investigations increased to 153, from 133 the previous year.

The OSC is empowered to grant relief from strict compliance with the acts in cases where public interest will not be prejudiced and the legislative safeguards are unnecessary. During 1981-82, the commission received 499 applications for exemptions. In addition, 398 cease trading orders and 30 administrative orders were issued.

During 1981-82, the OSC sought the assistance of the private sector in the review of legislation and procedures. The proposed amendments to the Securities Act received extensive public comment as a result of their publication in the OSC Weekly Bulletin. In addition, a committee of lawyers was asked to comment on the takeover bid requirements in the Securities Act, and another committee undertook a review of the OSC's published policies to recommend changes.

Acts administered by the commission:
Commodity Futures Act
Deposits Regulation Act
Securities Act
Toronto Stock Exchange Act

Chairman: H.H. Knowles
Director: C.R.B. Salter

Commodity Futures Advisory Board

The board, when requested by the Ontario Securities Commission, consults and advises the commission on developments in the nature of commodity contracts and the manner of trading and the influence of trading in contracts on the economy of the province.

Financial Disclosure Advisory Board

The board's role is to advise the Ontario Securities Commission, at the commission's request, on the financial disclosure requirements of the Securities Act and the regulations.

Toronto Stock Exchange Board of Directors

The role of the Toronto Stock Exchange Board of Directors is to govern and regulate the exchange and the partnership and corporate arrangements of the members and other persons authorized to trade on the exchange, including requirements as to financial condition. It is also to regulate the business conduct of members and other persons authorized to trade on the exchange and of their employees and agents and other persons associated with them in the conduct of business. Under Part III of the Corporations Act the board may pass by-laws and make rules and regulations as well as impose penalties for breach of any by-law, rule, regulation, direction or order.

Pension Commission of Ontario

The commission, established in 1963, sets ground rules for private pension plans to ensure they are properly funded, safely invested and paid out according to law.

In addition, the commission promotes the establishment, extension and improvement of pension plans throughout Ontario, registers the pension plans that qualify for registration, administers and enforces the Pension Benefits Act, conducts surveys and research programs and assesses and collects fees for registration.

During 1981-82, draft regulations for the Pension Benefits Guarantee Trust and the auditing of pension plans were circulated for comment and the Select Committee on Pensions published its first and final reports. These recommendations are now being considered by the commission.

The commission's principal role is the registration of private pension plans affecting more than 1.2 million Ontarians and their spouses who are members of the plans.

To this end, the commission's 22 member staff registered 571 new plans covering 23,027 people, an increase from 379 new plans covering 15,228 people in the previous year. During this year, 391 plans covering 9,605 members were terminated, compared with 311 plans covering 8,394 a year earlier.

This brought the number of plans registered with the commission to 7,771. About 8,675 annual returns for these plans with an average membership of 225 were examined, and almost 5,700 plan amendments were approved. Over a three-year period, cost certificates for all the plans and 4,104 actuarial valuation reports were processed.

In addition, staff answered 8,700 inquiries from companies, unions and the public on issues ranging from investment requirements to payments from bankrupt companies.

The commission meets at regular intervals to consider and make recommendations concerning the Pension Benefits Act, and to deal with situations arising from amendments to pension plans, plan terminations, mergers, and with valuation reports. Representatives of the Pension Commission also meet occasionally with representatives of other provinces in Canada to consider policy initiatives and help make pension legislation uniform.

Act administered by the commission
Pension Benefits Act

Commission Chairman: J.C. Maynard
Superintendent of Pensions: J.W. Bentley

2 Liquor Licence Program

Liquor Control Board of Ontario

The Liquor Control Board of Ontario (LCBO) was formed in 1927 and incorporated as a Crown Corporation in 1975 to:

- control the sale and transportation of liquor throughout Ontario
- establish government stores for the sale of liquor
- control and supervise the marketing methods of liquor manufacturers
- purchase products for sale to the public
- test all products sold to the public to maintain a high product quality

The LCBO employs 3,508 full-time employees and 1,895 part-time employees. In fiscal 1981-82, the sale of all products from LCBO stores grossed $1,329 million. The net income was $507 million.

Total beer, wine and spirits sales in Ontario during 1981-82 were $2,181 million. This includes the $1,329 million sold in LCBO stores, $825 million sold through Brewers' Retail stores and an additional $27 million sold in winery stores.

The Board now operates 592 liquor stores throughout the province including two rare wine stores (in Toronto and Ottawa) and two duty-free stores at Toronto International Airport. In addition, there are 67 agency stores (general stores or outfitting shops) authorized to sell liquor in remote northern parts of the province. A number of LCBO stores regularly carry over two thousand brands of wines and spirits, and eight are all brand stores carrying every item included in the general listing.

During fiscal year 1981-82, the LCBO continued to improve customer service by converting conventional stores to self-serve operations or building new self-serve outlets. The number of self-serve outlets increased to 460 from 443 during this period. Self-serve stores now represent 78 percent of the total number and there are many more on the drawing board.

Details of the Board's operations for the 1981-82 fiscal year are contained in its annual report, available from the LCBO at 55 Lakeshore Blvd. E., Toronto, Ontario M5E 1A4.

Acts administered by the LCBO:
Liquor Control Act
Wine Content Act

Chairman: W.J. Bosworth
General Manager: F.A. MacInnis

Liquor Licence Board of Ontario

The licensing and regulation of premises that sell beer, wine or spirits has been a provincial responsibility since 1867. The Liquor Licence Board of Ontario (LLBO) was established in 1946 and reorganized as a Crown Corporation under the Liquor Licence Act of 1975 for the following purposes:

- to issue, transfer and if necessary revoke liquor licences for establishments such as restaurants, hotels, resorts, recreational facilities and clubs
- to monitor all forms of alcoholic beverage advertising
- to issue Ontario Photo Cards
- to issue licences for Ontario manufacturers of beer, wine and spirits and register their sales agents

In addition, certain inspectors are appointed under the Theatres Act to inspect movie theatres, and groups concerned with alcohol abuse are assisted.

The board, composed of a full-time chairman, part-time vice-chairman and five part-time members, holds regular hearings on licence applications and transfers of licences, as well as disciplinary hearings involving all areas of licensing.

In November 1981, approximately 70 staff were transferred to the Ministry of the Solicitor General in fulfillment of the government's decision earlier that year to centralize all fire safety functions within the Office of the Ontario Fire Marshal.

LLBO revenues come from licence fees from provincial breweries, distilleries and wineries, a fee from licencees on sales of beer, wine and spirits and a fee for special occasion permits. Revenue reached $169.9 million in 1981-82 while expenses totalled $7.3 million.

The board received 933 applications for new licences, 1,328 applications for licence transfers and issued 154,959 special occasion permits during 1981-82. Board inspectors conducted 8,200 annual inspections of licensed premises and 1,771 inspections of special occasion events. The number of licensed outlets in 1981-82 was 9,060, up from 8,444 the previous year.

The board held 358 hearings during the year, at which 94 licences were suspended and 262 licences were cancelled. Licences were suspended for a variety of reasons, but the principal reasons were for serving liquor to minors, failure to maintain the proper ratio of liquor/food sales, failure to clear the premises at closing time, outstanding work orders and unpaid retail sales tax.

Four noteworthy regulation amendments took effect during 1981-82. The result of these amendments is that specified licencees may commence the sale of alcoholic beverages at 11:00 a.m. instead of noon, Sunday hours of operation have been extended by one hour to 11:00 p.m., licencees have 45 minutes instead of 30 minutes to clear all signs of sale and service and the liquor/food ratio is 60/40 instead of 50/50 for premises licensed as either a dining room or dining lounge.

Act administered by the Board:
Liquor Licence Act

Chairman: Willis L. Blair

Liquor Licence Appeal Tribunal

The Liquor Licence Appeal Tribunal (LLAT) provides an independent appeal process for the review, on request, of decisions of the Liquor Licence Board of Ontario related to the issuance, renewal, revocation or suspension of a liquor licence or special occasion permit, or the attaching of terms and conditions to a licence or permit. The tribunal is composed of a full-time chairman and six per diem members, two of whom are designated vice-chairmen, appointed by Order-in-Council. Appeals are heard by the chairman or vice-chairman and two panel members.

There were 46 new applications for hearings during 1981-82, down 12 per cent from the previous year's 51. The total number of cases dealt with during the 1981-82 fiscal year (including those carried over from the previous year and the number of those that were settled or withdrawn) was 65 compared to 69 in 1980-81.

Of the 65 matters, written decisions were rendered on 30, another 16 were settled without formal hearings and 19 were in process at year's end.

Summaries of LLAT decisions are published annually, based on a calendar year. The 1981 summary lists the outcome of 25 hearings. Eight applicants appealed decisions by the Liquor Licence Board of Ontario to attach terms and conditions to their licences, nine appealed suspension of their licences, one requested reversal of the LLBO's decision not to grant them liquor licences, and four objected to the issuance of a licence. The remaining cases included three revocations of licences and three meetings to decide whether an applicant could legally appeal to the tribunal.

Copies of the annual summaries of LLAT decisions are available from: Ontario Government Bookstore, 880 Bay St., Toronto, Ont. M5S 1Z8.

Act giving jurisdiction to the tribunal:
Liquor Licence Act

Chairman: J. Yaremko, Q.C.

3 Property Rights Program

Property Rights Division

This division is divided into three branches; Personal Property Security Registration Branch, Real Property Registration Branch and Legal and Survey Standards Branch. In addition, the division includes two advisory groups: Program Administration and the Land Registration Improvement Project.

The objectives of the division are to enable the ownership of and claims affecting real property, and claims affecting personal property to be readily ascertained. These objectives are achieved through the 49 personal property security registration offices and the 65 land registry offices (47 of which are combined land registry and personal property security registration offices) throughout the province.

Real Property Registration

This branch operates the land registration systems through 65 area offices. These offices also collect land transfer tax and retail sales tax. Land transfer tax and retail sales tax collected during 1981-82 increased to $124.3 million, compared with $98.6 million collected during the previous fiscal year. The total number of instruments registered during this fiscal year was 1,045,367 compared with 1,019,560 in 1980-81. Fee revenue totalled $19,402,651, an increase of $463,259 or 2.4 per cent over the amount collected in 1980-81.

The past year saw a continuance of efforts directed towards the improvement of management and administrative systems and customer service, as well as productivity increases throughout the branch.

To increase operational consistency throughout the registry offices in the province, the branch commenced the operations review and operational system documentation of the registry offices. To increase the quality of management support activities provided by the head office located in Toronto, one of the three deputy directors was regionalized to Kingston.

To provide better customer service, the hours of operation in Toronto, Brampton, Newmarket and Whitby land titles offices were extended from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on certain busy days in the months of August, September and October of 1981. Similar arrangements are being planned for 1982. In the area of increased services to the public, over the counter business incorporations service is now being provided in the registry offices in London and Thunder Bay. This incorporation service is a joint venture between the branch and Companies Division.

During 1981-82, new accommodations was provided for the land registry offices in Hamilton, Linsday and L'Original. New accommodation has been leased for the Pembroke Registry office with occupancy scheduled for April, 1982.

Many activities of the land registry offices are not directly related to instruments dealing with land registered during the year. Activities pertaining to security, operational and records management improvements are also high on the list of branch priorities and as such the branch undertook the ruling off of discharges of mortgages in the abstract indexes in some of the registry offices.

Personal Property Security Registration

The Personal Property Security Registration Branch is responsible for the administration of the Personal Property Security Act and for the operation of the personal property security registration system. The Act contains a comprehensive set of rules governing the rights of secured parties and debtors in relation to each other and in reference to the personal property used as collateral to secure the debt or other obligation. The Act requires a secured party to perfect his security interest in the collateral to protect his interest. One method of perfection is by registration of a notice (financing statement) in the system. A purchaser of personal property, or someone contemplating lending money on the security of personal property, can protect himself against the adverse interest of a secured party by making a search in the system.

During 1981-82, 1,053,656 registrations were recorded in the system and 480,821 enquiries were processed. There are more than 3 million registrations on file which secure in excess of $3 billion.

Legal and Survey Standards

This branch maintains the legal and technical quality of land registration records; provides advice on property and survey law and procedures to the Property Rights Division personnel as well as to lawyers, surveyors and the public; drafts the legislation and regulations administered by the division; performs pre-registration examinations of survey plans and descriptions; confirms boundaries under the Boundaries Act; certifies title under the Certification of Titles Act; and processes applications for first registration under the Land Titles Act.

Among other accomplishments this year, the Legal and Survey Standards Branch prepared a procedural guide to complement the Boundaries Act, 1980, and regulations thereunder. Regulations were made under the Land Titles Act and the Registry Act specifying the exact boundaries of each Land Titles and Registry Division in the province, and regarding the disposition of documents when Land Titles or Registry Divisions are combined or annexed. Housekeeping amendments were made to the regulations under the Registry Act, to increase efficiency in approving plans and descriptions entering the Land Registration Systems and a revised regulation dealing with forms, records and procedures was made under the Land Titles Act. Regulations were made under the Land Titles Act and the Registry Act which extended the hours in certain land registry offices on specified days in order to provide improved service to the public.

In-depth legal audits of both Land Titles and Registry offices were continued and further facilitated through internal branch re-organization, thus promoting a higher standard of accuracy and uniformity of procedures. A new Abstract Entry Guide under the Registry Act was finalized and distributed to all Land Registry Offices. Amendments were made to the Registry Act to provide for mandatory certification under the Certification of Titles Act of lands to be subdivided in areas where the Land Titles Act does not apply.

Land Registration Improvement Project

In 1979, the Land Registration Improvement Project was approved and initial development began. The project designs, develops and implements improvements to the existing land registration system.

During 1981-82 the project implemented legislation under the Registry Act to reduce the search period to 40 years and make discharge of mortgages immediately effective. In addition, the project initiated special projects to rule out discharged mortgages on Abstract Index books and to search titles behind plans of subdivision registered prior to January 1, 1955 in preparation for certification.

A prototype self-serve document microfilm system for searching titles in Newmarket is now being implemented.

Also, a demonstration of the proposed automated system for land registration was developed and presented to ministry staff and users. Plans are currently underway to select a registry office to serve as a prototype for the automated system.

Acts administered by the division:
Bills of Sale Act
Boundaries Act
Certification of Titles Act
Condominium Act (part)
Land Titles Act
Personal Property Security Act
Registry Act

Provincial Property Registrar: D. M. Peacock

4 Public Entertainment Standards Program

Lotteries Branch

During 1981, Ontarians spent $343 million on non-government lotteries supervised by the Lotteries Branch.

Of this total, $147 million (43 per cent) were given to charity, $113 million were returned to the public in prize money and the remainder was used to cover administrative costs for running the lotteries.

Since 1970 when the branch was created, over 953,000 (113,000 during 1981) social gaming events have been licensed with a total gross of over $2.261 billion. Charitable organizations and community betterment programs have received $954 million of this total.

Community service clubs continue to be the principal sponsors of lotteries, followed by religious, minor sports, health and welfare, educational and cultural groups.

The number of bingos licensed by the branch rose to 4,586 in 1981 from 3,846 in 1980. Prize money for bingos also rose to $16,178,705 from $13,408,794 in 1980.

The number of raffles licensed by the branch in 1981 increased to 2,145 with total prizes of $27,858,105.

Monte Carlo nights (with limited betting at gaming wheels and blackjack tables) continued to be popular. The branch licensed 1,311 such events in 1981 compared with 1,355 in 1980.

In addition, the branch licensed 1,700 games of chance at 230 fall fairs during 1981.

Comparative statistics for municipally licensed bingos, raffles, nevada tickets and lottery schemes held at bazaars show a similar rate of increase for the year.

Director: D.F. Speight

Theatres Branch

The objectives of the Theatres Branch are to ensure safety in public theatres, maintain standards for film projectionists, inform theatre-goers of film content and ensure that all films on public screens are consistent with the current community standards.

To achieve these goals, the branch licenses and monitors more than 400 theatres in the province for observance of Theatres Act requirements, tests and licenses over 1,100 projectionists and licenses almost 500 items of projection equipment. Through the Board of Censors, it screens, classifies and approves standard, 16mm, 8mm and videotape films.

The board is composed of rotating members who, through continual community liaison, research the concerns and values of the Ontario population to determine criteria for films considered appropriate for specific age groups and to define content as acceptable or unacceptable for public screens.

These criteria were the base for flexible guidelines which were applied in the classification and approval of 1,602 films in 1981-82 and in requesting editing of 102 films prior to exhibition. Fifty-three films were not approved.

In keeping with the philosophy of open decision-making and public accountability, board members participated in numerous public meetings and media interviews to explain the role of the board and to assess specific areas of public concern in classifying and approving film for public exhibition. Information on decisions made by the board is available to the public on request. Theatres branch staff received and responded to 1,033 inquiries and requests for information from the public. The board also distributed to the public its procedures for examination and approval of films and its documented perception of current community standards (guidelines).

Act admindered by the branch:
Theatres Act

Director: M. Brown

Ontario Racing Commission

More than $821 million were wagered at 23 Ontario race tracks in Ontario in the 1981 calendar year. Approximately $286 million were wagered on thoroughbred racing while the standardbreds attracted more than $534 million. This generated in excess of $59 million in taxes for the provincial treasury.

Overseeing Ontario's race tracks is the responsibility of the Ontario Racing Commission. Established in 1950, the commission is responsible for governing and regulating thoroughbred and standardbred horse racing in the province.

To help fulfill its mandate, the commission licenses all race track operators in the province as well as those who work at the tracks or participate in racing. For example, owners, trainers, jockeys, drivers, grooms, jockeys' agents, tradespeople and pari-mutuel employees all fall into categories which require licences issued by the commission. Under the Racing Commission Act, the commission has the power to suspend violators or to impose and collect fines should participants breach the rules of racing established in Ontario.

To aid in the development of the industry, the provincial government rebates to the industry a portion of the pari-mutuel wagering tax collected the previous year. This rebate provides purse assistance to regular overnight races, funds for the development of the racing and breeding improvement programs and equine research.

In 1981, the total amount of this rebate was $11.6 million, of which $3 million went to help fund the Ontario Standardbred Sires Stakes Program. This program was established in 1974 to aid development of the industry and to encourage horsemen to develop better racing and breeding stock. It has grown over the years to become one of the largest sires stakes programs in North America. In December, 1980, the government announced that the tax rebate would be increased for 1981 and 1982. AM Playgirl, an Ontario sires stakes filly, was named "Horse of the Year" on the Ontario Jockey Club circuit in 1981, an indication of the success of the program.

In 1981, the commission approved and supervised 244 thoroughbred race dates and 1,570 standardbred race dates. The commission, through its on-track representatives issued 4,855 thoroughbred licences and 13,592 standardbred licences. Twenty-five hearings were held to consider appeals relating to rulings made by stewards and judges as well as applications for race dates.

In addition, the commission began an official's training program in conjunction with the ministry's Personnel Services Branch. The classes are designed to help judges and stewards efficiently conduct hearings and appeals on rule violations, within today's legal framework.

Province of Ontario Horse Racing and Breeding Advisory Board

This board, composed of representatives from all facets of the racing industry, advises the Minister of Consumer and Commercial Relations and the Ontario Racing Commission on matters relating to the establishment and operation of the province's Horse Racing and Breeding Assistance Program.

Board Chairman: Dr. J. Glen Brown, D.V.M.

Act administered by the commission:
Racing Commission Act

Commission Chairman: N. E. Hardy
Commission Director: W. R. McDonnell

Office of the Athletics Commissioner

The commissioner is responsible for the good conduct of all professional wrestling and boxing in the province. Under the Athletics Control Act, the commissioner also has a duty to assist, promote, and encourage amateur sport.

The commissioner's office approves and assigns judges, referees, timekeepers, and physicians for all professional boxing matches.

Two licences for the 1981-82 season were issued to wrestling promoters in Toronto who sponsored 20 shows. The office also issued 93 licences for professional wrestling matches outside Toronto. One hundred and twenty-six professional wrestlers were licensed to perform in the province.

Licences are issued to professional boxing promoters on a yearly basis during which they may sponsor an unlimited number of bouts. This year, the office issued 10 such licences to promoters who sponsored 15 professional fights. One hundred and eighteen boxers were licensed.

The revenue generated by the office from the two percent tax on gate receipts and the various licences totalled $23,187.

Over the last year, the commission has emphasized safety. The first boxing safety seminar to be held in Canada was co-sponsored by the ministry and Fitness and Amateur Sport Canada. Over 100 delegates attended, representing both amateur and professional interest groups; several were members of the medical profession.

The passport identification of resident professional boxers was implemented that lists their boxing and medical records. The passport must be presented before entering a boxing contest in Ontario.

In addition, safety clinics were held for commission officials, Saint John Ambulance personnel were enlisted as backup to attending doctors for emergency situations, and six new officials were licensed.

Act administered by the commissioner:
Athletics Control Act

Commissioner: C. Gray

5 Registrar General Program

Registrar General

The collection and compiling of vital statistics (births, deaths, marriages) in Ontario is the job of the Registrar General.

In addition to collecting and safeguarding these records, the Registrar General also records changes of names, adoptions, divorces and, since March, 1978, consent or court-ordered parentage of children born out of wedlock.

Following is a table showing returns received by the Registrar General for births, deaths, stillbirths and marriages from 1979-1981.

	1981	1980	1979
Births	122,874	124,183	122,296
Deaths	65,371	63,435	62,135
Stillbirths	989	950	974
Marriages	69,896	67,869	67,739
Totals	259,130	256,437	253,144

During 1981, 405,330 certificates, certified copies and "no record" letters were issued, a decrease of 4.6 per cent over 1980. In addition, 18,658 verifications were made for other government departments and authorized agencies. This figure includes 6,004 searches made for family benefits allowance and 6,409 searches and verifications for children's aid societies.

The Chief Coroner's Office was supplied with approximately 24,000 photocopies of current death registrations which had involved a coroner. An additional 172,000 photostat prints were required for this office, other jurisdictions, cancer research, statistics, corrections, amendments and related uses.

Birth certificates issued for children under five years of age totalled 91,655, or 32.5 per cent of birth certificates issued. In the 16 to 21 age bracket, the total was 45,930 or 16.3 per cent. For those 18 years of age the total was 6,771 or 2.4 per cent of all birth certificates issued.

During 1981, of the approximately 300,000 applications for birth certificates received for years 1869 to date, 2.0 per cent were found to be not registered. Of these approximately 32 per cent were for the period 1869 to 1921.

Registration is more accurate and complete in recent years because parents are more aware of its importance. Because the parents of each child registered automatically receive a "Notice of Birth Registration" which contains most of the birth particulars they have provided, they have the opportunity to correct any errors or make given name changes. These notices may also be used to apply for the child's birth certificate. This has encouraged parents of nearly half the children born to apply for birth certificates during the year of birth, reducing the flood of applications formerly experienced when a child is entering school.

In 1981, 385 children were registered in the hyphenated/combined surname of the father and mother, an increase of 60 from 1980.

Of the 30,285 death certificates issued, 21,696 or 71.6 per cent related to deaths in 1981 and 2,943 or 9.7 per cent related to deaths in 1980. Only 5,646, or 18.6 per cent of the total, were issued for deaths occuring between 1869 and 1979.

Of the 28,561 marriage certificates issued, 14,741, or 51.6 per cent, related to marriages solemnized in the last 10 years.

The revenue collected by the office of the Registrar General between January and December 1981 was $3,138,118. Included is the revenue from searches and certificates at $1,827,859, a decrease of 13.6 per cent from 1980. This was due to a decrease in certificates issued.

Furthur statistical information on registration, certificates issued, name changes and other activities of the Registrar General's Office for 1981 is available from the ministry's Communications Services Branch, 555 Yonge St., Toronto, Ontario M7A 2H6. Tel. (416) 963-0339.

Acts administered by the program:
Marriage Act
Vital Statistics Act

Deputy Registrar General: R.E. Drapkin
(Under the Vital Statistics Act, the Minister of Consumer and Commercial Relations is also the Registrar General of the province).

6 Rent Review Program

Residential Tenancy Commission

The Residential Tenancy Commission (RTC) entered its third year of operation in fiscal 1981-82. This was a year marked by an increased workload and a landmark decision by the Supreme Court of Canada on the question of provincial jurisdiction over landlord-tenant matters.

The Supreme Court decision declared as unconstitutional the power of the province to appoint decision makers to adjudicate landlord and tenant disputes. Accordingly, such disputes will continue to be resolved within the framework of the Landlord and Tenant Act (Part IV).

Whole building review
A landlord wishing an increase in excess of six per cent on any rental unit subject to the Act is required to file an application for the whole building and the rents for all units are determined at the same time.

In the 12-month period ending March 31, 1982, the RTC received 5,027 landlord applications for whole building review involving 157,811 residential units. This compares with 2,170 applications and 51,542 units for the previous fiscal year.

The RTC held 3,185 hearings at its 20 offices throughout the province related to whole building review.

In fiscal 1981-82, landlords requested an average increase of 19.3 per cent and were granted an average increase of 14.7 per cent for each rental unit.These figures compare with 15.7 per cent and 11.6 per cent respectively in 1980-81.

Owners of smaller rental complexes requested and received, on average, higher increases compared to owners of larger buildings. For example, the average increase permitted duplex-triplex owners, comprising 21 per cent of all hearings, was approximately 21 per cent whereas owners of large elevator equipped complexes averaging 104 units, and comprising 19 per cent of all hearings, were granted an average increase of 13.8 per cent.

It should be noted that while a majority of the rent increases granted were in the six per cent to 30 per cent range, a significant number fell outside that range, especially at the upper level.A total of 391 hearings (or one in seven) resulted in increases greater than 30 per cent.

Tenant applications
Tenants may dispute any proposed rent increases they feel are unjustified, including those under six per cent. They may also apply for rebates of excess rents paid in the past.

In fiscal 1981-82, the RTC received 1,468 tenant applications disputing proposed rent increases and 1,585 applications requesting rent rebates on past rent overcharges.

Tenant disputes over proposed rent increases were settled by mediation or formal hearings in 459 cases. Of these, 177 received monthly rent reductions to proposed increases averaging $40.92 while the remainder were either withdrawn, dismissed or resulted in no change to the proposed rent.

Of the 1,011 applications resolved requesting a rent rebate, 786 (78 per cent) were resolved through mediation and the remainder at formal hearings. Of the total number of applications resolved, 74 per cent were granted rebates averaging $296.04. Tenants recovered a total of approximately $250,000 in excess rents from landlords with the assistance of the RTC.

A landlord or a tenant may appeal the order of a commissioner. During 1981-82, 417 initial orders were appealed. Of these 369 resulted from whole building review while 48 resulted from tenant appeal applications. Analysis of the appeal decisions indicates that 29 per cent resulted in increased awards, 15 per cent in decreased awards and slightly over one-half confirmed the original rent levels.

During 1981-82, RTC staff responded to 172,749 requests for information or advice. Of these, 59 per cent related to rent review matters only, 33 per cent to landlord-tenant topics and eight per cent encompassed both.

Reasons for rent increases
The RTC's statistics for 1981-82 indicate that while increased operating costs are the major contributing factor in applications by landlords for rent review, a significant proportion of applications (67 per cent) included capital expenditures.

Of the 14.6 per cent average rent increase allowed by the RTC in cases involving increased operating costs, only 7.5 per cent was attributable to higher operating costs, and 7.1 per cent to other factors.

Financial loss continued to be an important component of the total rent increases granted by the RTC. Approximately one-half of all residential complexes which came to rent review incurred financial loss, the same as in the previous year. These complexes received an average increase of 17.6 per cent of which 8.0 per cent was attributable to financial loss.

Approximately one in three landlords cited increased financing costs in their applications for rent review. This is a significant increase from last year when only 18 per cent of all applications (or one in six) claimed increased financing costs. While the contribution of this factor to the 14.7 per cent overall increase was a modest 2.8 per cent, the rent increase granted due to this factor alone was significant at 9.0 per cent.

Act administered by the commission
Residential Tenancies Act

Chief Tenancy Commissioner: P. C. Williams

7 Technical Standards Program

Technical Standards Division

Technical Standards Division comprises five branches: Pressure Vessels Safety, Elevating Devices, Fuels Safety, Building Code and Upholstered and Stuffed Articles.

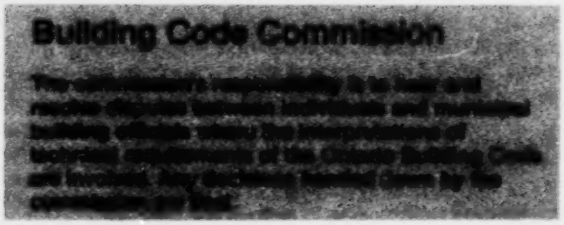
Building Code Branch

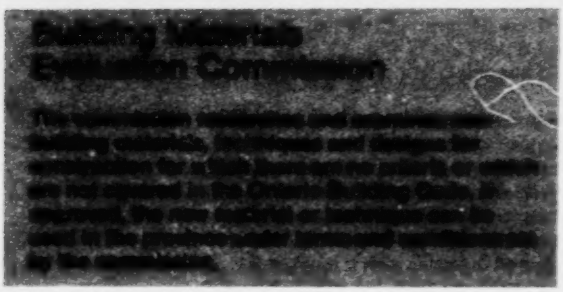
The Building Code Branch maintains the Building Code which regulates the construction and demolition of buildings throughout the province.

During 1981-82, revisions to the code included changes to make buildings more accessible to the handicapped and changed the snow load requirements for agricultural greenhouses. Proposals to use the 1980 National Building Code as a basis for revisions to the Building Code and to revise the plumbing code to incorporate it into the Building Code as Part 7 are nearing completion.

The branch has been active as a member of the Interministry Committee on Residential Renovation, the Interministry Task Force on the Fire Code, the Interministry Working Group on Air Quality in Houses, the Interministry Committee on the Potential Health Hazards of Building Materials and the Interministry Team of Co-ordinators of the Physically Handicapped.

The branch provides advice on all matters in the Building and Plumbing Codes to building officials, the design professions and the construction industry.





Elevating Devices Branch

The Elevating Devices Branch licenses and inspects 25,000 elevating device installations in the province. The vast majority are passenger or freight elevators, but also included are escalators, moving walks, freight platform lifts, elevating devices for the handicapped, manlifts, passenger ropeways, construction hoists, and stage lifts. In 1981-82, branch staff carried out approximately 29,000 inspections.

Designs for new installations are reviewed by branch engineering staff before construction begins and, on completion, these installations are inspected to ensure conformance with the design submission and the standards before they are licensed and allowed to go into service. Contractors maintaining or installing elevating devices are registered.

The Elevating Dev as Act, 1980 and Regulation 229/81 came into effect May 1, 1981. This act replaces the Elevators and Lifts Act and the Construction Hoists Act. Significant changes included:

- the definition of, and requirements for adequate maintenance of equipment
- registration as contractors of owners maintaining their own equipment
- a requirement for the reporting of incidents as well as accidents
- formal adoption of Canadian standards governing many types of elevating devices
- provision for the allowance of variances from codes and standards

The thrust of the new legislation is the achievement of self-regulation by manufacturers, designers, registered contractors and owners of elevating devices.

Fuels Safety Branch

The Fuels Safety Branch is concerned with the safe storage, transmission and dispensing of gasoline, fuel oils, natural gas, propane and associated products, as well as the safety of appliances and devices which use these fuels.

The major branch activities stress preventive measures as well as working with, and through, the industry as part of the ministry's self-regulation policy. Initiating remedial action where necessary also forms part of the Branch safety program.

During 1981-82, the branch prepared extensive revisions to three safety regulations involving gasoline, natural gas, and propane. These revisions were in recognition of changing technology and provincial-federal oil consumption reduction programs.

Included in the revisions are a 10-year replacement and upgrading program for underground gasoline storage tanks; recognition of the special safety requirements for converting gasoline engines on motor vehicles to propane and the dispensing of propane to highway vehicles; and clarification and tightening of the responsibilities of contractors, suppliers, and owners, in the safe installation and operation of appliances and accessories.

It is anticipated that these revised regulations will be in effect by the end of 1982.

The increase in demand on the branch's safety monitoring functions, a result of the off-oil program, was absorbed by improvements in operating efficiency and industry self-regulation.

The branch, together with community colleges, continues to be involved in ensuring that a sufficient number of trained technicians is available for the safe installation and conversion of hydrocarbon burning devices.

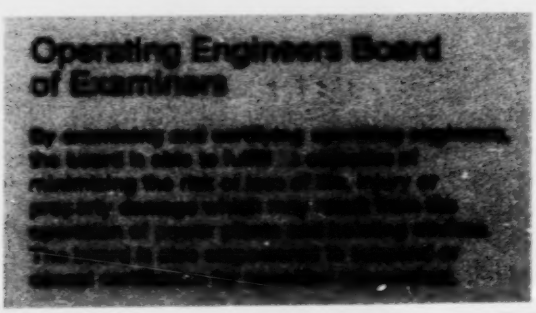
Pressure Vessels Safety Branch (Operating Engineers Section)

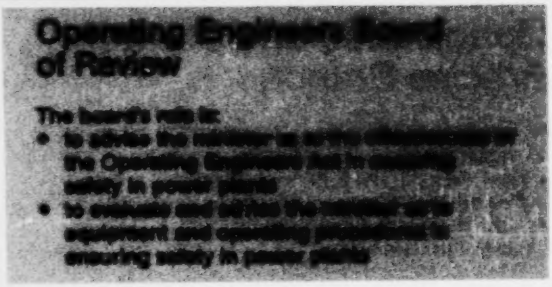
The operating engineers section of the Pressure Vessels Safety Branch is responsible for the qualification and certification of all operating engineers in the province.

Operating Engineers are classified as stationary engineers (first, second, third and fourth class), provisional stationary engineers (first, second, third and fourth class), hoisting engineers, refrigeration operators (Class A & B) and air compressor operators.

The Branch issued 2,502 certificates this year, 70 provisional certificates and renewed 13,502 certificates.

A regulation was introduced which extended guarded plant status to certain second class plants. This allows the engineers on duty to leave the boiler room and be available for related maintenance work elsewhere in the plant.





Pressure Vessels Safety Branch

This branch is responsible for ensuring the safe design, construction and installation of boilers and pressure vessels. In 1981-82, branch safety officers made 70,547 examinations of vessels during manufacture, 2,560 visits to review new installations, checked 2,035 repairs and made 10,579 visits to plants in operation this year.

The head office handled 62,548 telephone calls related to these activities.

The engineering section reviewed 3,844 designs of boilers, vessels and piping, and there was a continuing high level of activity in the construction field, with branch inspectors conducting 21,889 welder's tests.

Upholstered and Stuffed Articles Branch

All materials used for filling articles sold in Ontario are regulated by the Upholstered and Stuffed Articles Branch. The 2,900 manufacturers selling stuffed articles in the province must be registered with the branch and must affix content disclosure labels to their products.

The branch conducted 5,223 inspections and 1,198 tests of stuffed articles during fiscal 1981-82. As a result, 56,000 articles were taken off the sales floor for non-compliance with the regulations; of these 98 per cent were relabelled and released for sale, 1.5 per cent were returned to the manufacturer or distributor, and 0.5 per cent were condemned as unfit for sale in Ontario.

The total number of articles found which did not comply with the regulations continued to decrease, down from 72,000 during fiscal 1980/81, due mainly to the fact that the branch has continued to educate the industry in matters of self-regulation and encouraged contact with the branch if doubt occurs regarding new shipments of goods, particularly from overseas.

Also, manufacturers, distributors and importers were visited at eleven major trade shows and given advice regarding provincial requirements, particularly those relating to new product lines.

Acts administered by the division:
Boilers and Pressure Vessels Act
Building Code Act
Elevating Devices Act
Energy Act
Gasoline Handling Act
Operating Engineers Act
Upholstered and Stuffed Articles Act

Executive Director: H. Y. Yoneyama